

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "BILL"  
RAGGIO

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my longtime colleague in Nevada government, State senator William "Bill" Raggio, for his extensive record of public service and community activism.

At this year's Governor's Points of Light Award Dinner, Senator Raggio will be honored with the inaugural "Governor's Choice Award." This award, which will be formally presented by Governor Jim Gibbons on February 26, recognizes Senator Raggio for his commitment to community improvement through volunteerism and philanthropy.

A longtime resident of Nevada, Bill has been a devoted and active member of his community. As a young man during World War II, Senator Raggio served his community and his country honorably as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Upon return, he graduated from the University of Nevada at Reno before pursuing a law degree.

Since that time, Bill has been a tireless advocate for the people of Nevada. He has served on the ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals and also as the district attorney for Washoe County. In 1973, Bill made the jump to the State senate, where his career has flourished and continues today. He has worked in various capacities in the State's legislative body, and is currently the minority leader of the senate.

I can think of no better recipient of the "Governor's Choice Award" than Senator Raggio. His 36 years of public service and selfless sacrifice are an example of how a single person can be an overwhelming influence for good in his community. There is no doubt that his wife Dale and their children are extremely proud of him. Indeed, all Nevadans have reason to be proud of Senator Raggio.

I congratulate Senator Raggio upon receiving this tremendous honor, and wish him all the best in his future undertakings.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, strong leadership at the Department of Labor is essential as the economy continues to worsen.

Workers who are struggling need leaders who have been there, who know what it is like to grow up in a working class household. HILDA SOLIS is the right person to run the most important federal agency for workers who need a helping hand. I strongly support her nomination.

Congresswoman SOLIS grew up in southern California and has for decades fought for the rights of working men and women.

While a member of the California State Senate she led the fight in 1996 to increase the State minimum wage.

Since her election to Congress in 2000, she has cochaired the bipartisan Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues and played a key role in the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act in 2006.

Last year she helped lead the effort to provide workforce training for "green collar" jobs.

She is also a nationally recognized leader on the environment, and for that she became the first woman to receive the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award in 2000.

Congresswoman SOLIS has articulated a strong vision for the Department. She is ready to lead the Department's efforts in: training and job placement for unemployed workers; building career ladders for at-risk youth, and expanding opportunities for our military heroes returning from combat.

Over 2.6 million workers have lost their jobs since this recession began, and the end is not yet in sight.

America needs an active Department of Labor to help these workers retrain for the economy of the 21st century and find new work.

America needs HILDA SOLIS to take charge of the Labor Department and to get to work today.

I urge my colleagues to support her nomination.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING,  
AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the rules of procedure for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COMMITTEE ON  
BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
RULE 1. REGULAR MEETING DATE FOR  
COMMITTEE

The regular meeting day for the Committee to transact its business shall be the last Tuesday in each month that the Senate is in Session; except that if the Committee has met at any time during the month prior to the last Tuesday of the month, the regular meeting of the Committee may be canceled at the discretion of the Chairman.

RULE 2. COMMITTEE

[a] Investigations. No investigation shall be initiated by the Committee unless the Senate, or the full Committee, or the Chairman and Ranking Member have specifically authorized such investigation.

[b] Hearings. No hearing of the Committee shall be scheduled outside the District of Columbia except by agreement between the Chairman of the Committee and the Ranking Member of the Committee or by a majority vote of the Committee.

[c] Confidential testimony. No confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented at an executive session of the Committee or any report of the proceedings of such executive session shall be made public either in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless specifically authorized by the Chairman of the Committee and the Ranking Member of the Committee or by a majority vote of the Committee.

[d] Interrogation of witnesses. Committee interrogation of a witness shall be conducted only by members of the Committee or such professional staff as is authorized by the Chairman or the Ranking Member of the Committee.

[e] Prior notice of markup sessions. No session of the Committee or a Subcommittee for marking up any measure shall be held unless [1] each member of the Committee or the Subcommittee, as the case may be, has been notified in writing via electronic mail or paper mail of the date, time, and place of such session and has been furnished a copy of the measure to be considered, in a searchable electronic format, at least 3 business days prior to the commencement of such session, or [2] the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee determines that exigent circumstances exist requiring that the session be held sooner.

[f] Prior notice of first degree amendments. It shall not be in order for the Committee or a Subcommittee to consider any amendment in the first degree proposed to any measure under consideration by the Committee or Subcommittee unless fifty written copies of such amendment have been delivered to the office of the Committee at least 2 business days prior to the meeting. It shall be in order, without prior notice, for a Senator to offer a motion to strike a single section of any measure under consideration. Such a motion to strike a section of the measure under consideration by the Committee or Subcommittee shall not be amendable. This section may be waived by a majority of the members of the Committee or Subcommittee voting, or by agreement of the Chairman and Ranking Member. This subsection shall apply only when the conditions of subsection [e][1] have been met.

[g] Cordon rule. Whenever a bill or joint resolution repealing or amending any statute or part thereof shall be before the Committee or Subcommittee, from initial consideration in hearings through final consideration, the Clerk shall place before each member of the Committee or Subcommittee a print of the statute or the part or section thereof to be amended or repealed showing by stricken-through type, the part or parts to be omitted, and in italics, the matter proposed to be added. In addition, whenever a member of the Committee or Subcommittee offers an amendment to a bill or joint resolution under consideration, those amendments shall be presented to the Committee or Subcommittee in a like form, showing by typographical devices the effect of the proposed amendment on existing law. The requirements of this subsection may be waived when, in the opinion of the Committee or Subcommittee Chairman, it is necessary to expedite the business of the Committee or Subcommittee.

RULE 3. SUBCOMMITTEES

[a] Authorization for. A Subcommittee of the Committee may be authorized only by the action of a majority of the Committee.

[b] Membership. No member may be a member of more than three Subcommittees and no member may chair more than one Subcommittee. No member will receive assignment to a second Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members of the Committee have chosen assignments to one Subcommittee, and no member shall receive assignment to a third Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members have chosen assignments to two Subcommittees.

[c] Investigations. No investigation shall be initiated by a Subcommittee unless the Senate or the full Committee has specifically authorized such investigation.

[d] Hearings. No hearing of a Subcommittee shall be scheduled outside the District of Columbia without prior consultation with the Chairman and then only by agreement between the Chairman of the Subcommittee and the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee or by a majority vote of the Subcommittee.

[e] Confidential testimony. No confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented at an executive session of the Subcommittee or any report of the proceedings of such executive session shall be made public, either in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless specifically authorized by the Chairman of the Subcommittee and the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee, or by a majority vote of the Subcommittee.

[f] Interrogation of witnesses. Subcommittee interrogation of a witness shall be conducted only by members of the Subcommittee or such professional staff as is authorized by the Chairman or the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee.

[g] Special meetings. If at least three members of a Subcommittee desire that a special meeting of the Subcommittee be called by the Chairman of the Subcommittee, those members may file in the offices of the Committee their written request to the Chairman of the Subcommittee for that special meeting. Immediately upon the filing of the request, the Clerk of the Committee shall notify the Chairman of the Subcommittee of the filing of the request. If, within 3 calendar days after the filing of the request, the Chairman of the Subcommittee does not call the requested special meeting, to be held within 7 calendar days after the filing of the request, a majority of the members of the Subcommittee may file in the offices of the Committee their written notice that a special meeting of the Subcommittee will be held, specifying the date and hour of that special meeting. The Subcommittee shall meet on that date and hour. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the Clerk of the Committee shall notify all members of the Subcommittee that such special meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour. If the Chairman of the Subcommittee is not present at any regular or special meeting of the Subcommittee, the Ranking Member of the majority party on the Subcommittee who is present shall preside at that meeting.

[h] Voting. No measure or matter shall be recommended from a Subcommittee to the Committee unless a majority of the Subcommittee are actually present. The vote of the Subcommittee to recommend a measure or matter to the Committee shall require the concurrence of a majority of the members of the Subcommittee voting. On Subcommittee matters other than a vote to recommend a measure or matter to the Committee no record vote shall be taken unless a majority of the Subcommittee is actually present. Any absent member of a Subcommittee may affirmatively request that his or her vote to recommend a measure or matter to the Committee or his vote on any such other matters on which a record vote is taken, be cast by proxy. The proxy shall be in writing and shall be sufficiently clear to identify the subject matter and to inform the Subcommittee as to how the member wishes his or her vote to be recorded thereon. By written notice to the Chairman of the Subcommittee any time before the record vote on the measure or matter concerned is taken, the member may withdraw a proxy previously given. All proxies shall be kept in the files of the Committee.

#### RULE 4. WITNESSES

[a] Filing of statements. Any witness appearing before the Committee or Subcommittee [including any witness representing a Government agency] must file with the Committee or Subcommittee [24 hours preceding his or her appearance] 75 copies of his or her statement to the Committee or Subcommittee, and the statement must include a brief summary of the testimony. In the event that the witness fails to

file a written statement and brief summary in accordance with this rule, the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee has the discretion to deny the witness the privilege of testifying before the Committee or Subcommittee until the witness has properly complied with the rule.

[b] Length of statements. Written statements properly filed with the Committee or Subcommittee may be as lengthy as the witness desires and may contain such documents or other addenda as the witness feels is necessary to present properly his or her views to the Committee or Subcommittee. The brief summary included in the statement must be no more than 3 pages long. It shall be left to the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee as to what portion of the documents presented to the Committee or Subcommittee shall be published in the printed transcript of the hearings.

[c] Ten-minute duration. Oral statements of witnesses shall be based upon their filed statements but shall be limited to 10 minutes duration. This period may be limited or extended at the discretion of the Chairman presiding at the hearings.

[d] Subpoena of witnesses. Witnesses may be subpoenaed by the Chairman of the Committee or a Subcommittee with the agreement of the Ranking Member of the Committee or Subcommittee or by a majority vote of the Committee or Subcommittee.

[e] Counsel permitted. Any witness subpoenaed by the Committee or Subcommittee to a public or executive hearing may be accompanied by counsel of his or her own choosing who shall be permitted, while the witness is testifying, to advise him or her of his or her legal rights.

[f] Expenses of witnesses. No witness shall be reimbursed for his or her appearance at a public or executive hearing before the Committee or Subcommittee unless such reimbursement is agreed to by the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee.

[g] Limits of questions. Questioning of a witness by members shall be limited to 5 minutes duration when 5 or more members are present and 10 minutes duration when less than 5 members are present, except that if a member is unable to finish his or her questioning in this period, he or she may be permitted further questions of the witness after all members have been given an opportunity to question the witness.

Additional opportunity to question a witness shall be limited to a duration of 5 minutes until all members have been given the opportunity of questioning the witness for a second time. This 5-minute period per member will be continued until all members have exhausted their questions of the witness.

#### RULE 5. VOTING

[a] Vote to report a measure or matter. No measure or matter shall be reported from the Committee unless a majority of the Committee is actually present. The vote of the Committee to report a measure or matter shall require the concurrence of a majority of the members of the Committee who are present.

Any absent member may affirmatively request that his or her vote to report a matter be cast by proxy. The proxy shall be sufficiently clear to identify the subject matter, and to inform the Committee as to how the member wishes his vote to be recorded thereon. By written notice to the Chairman any time before the record vote on the measure or matter concerned is taken, any member may withdraw a proxy previously given. All proxies shall be kept in the files of the Committee, along with the record of the rollcall vote of the members present and voting, as an official record of the vote on the measure or matter.

[b] Vote on matters other than to report a measure or matter. On Committee matters other than a vote to report a measure or matter, no record vote shall be taken unless a majority of the Committee are actually present. On any such other matter, a member of the Committee may request that his or her vote may be cast by proxy. The proxy shall be in writing and shall be sufficiently clear to identify the subject matter, and to inform the Committee as to how the member wishes his or her vote to be recorded thereon. By written notice to the Chairman any time before the vote on such other matter is taken, the member may withdraw a proxy previously given. All proxies relating to such other matters shall be kept in the files of the Committee.

#### RULE 6. QUORUM

No executive session of the Committee or a Subcommittee shall be called to order unless a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee, as the case may be, are actually present. Unless the Committee otherwise provides or is required by the Rules of the Senate, one member shall constitute a quorum for the receipt of evidence, the swearing in of witnesses, and the taking of testimony.

#### RULE 7. STAFF PRESENT ON DAIS

Only members and the Clerk of the Committee shall be permitted on the dais during public or executive hearings, except that a member may have one staff person accompany him or her during such public or executive hearing on the dais. If a member desires a second staff person to accompany him or her on the dais he or she must make a request to the Chairman for that purpose.

#### RULE 8. COINAGE LEGISLATION

At least 67 Senators must cosponsor any gold medal or commemorative coin bill or resolution before consideration by the Committee.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE—RULE XXV, STANDING COMMITTEES

1. The following standing committees shall be appointed at the commencement of each Congress, and shall continue and have the power to act until their successors are appointed, with leave to report by bill or otherwise on matters within their respective jurisdictions:

[d][1] Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, to which committee shall be referred all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects:

1. Banks, banking, and financial institutions.
2. Control of prices of commodities, rents, and services.
3. Deposit insurance.
4. Economic stabilization and defense production.
5. Export and foreign trade promotion.
6. Export controls.
7. Federal monetary policy, including Federal Reserve System.
8. Financial aid to commerce and industry.
9. Issuance and redemption of notes.
10. Money and credit, including currency and coinage.
11. Nursing home construction.
12. Public and private housing [including veterans' housing].
13. Renegotiation of Government contracts.
14. Urban development and urban mass transit.

[2] Such committee shall also study and review, on a comprehensive basis, matters relating to international economic policy as it affects United States monetary affairs, credit, and financial institutions; economic

growth, urban affairs, and credit, and report thereon from time to time.

#### COMMITTEE PROCEDURES FOR PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES

Procedures formally adopted by the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, February 4, 1981, establish a uniform questionnaire for all Presidential nominees whose confirmation hearings come before this Committee.

In addition, the procedures establish that:

[1] A confirmation hearing shall normally be held at least 5 days after receipt of the completed questionnaire by the Committee unless waived by a majority vote of the Committee.

[2] The Committee shall vote on the confirmation not less than 24 hours after the Committee has received transcripts of the hearing unless waived by unanimous consent.

[3] All nominees routinely shall testify under oath at their confirmation hearings.

This questionnaire shall be made a part of the public record except for financial information, which shall be kept confidential.

Nominees are requested to answer all questions, and to add additional pages where necessary.

#### NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge National Peace Corps Week and the many U.S. Peace Corps volunteers serving across the globe.

There are currently 22 U.S. Peace Corps volunteers from Wyoming who are serving around the world. These men and women have joined a unique organization of people who are willing to make a personal commitment to lend a helping hand to those in the world who are less fortunate than us.

These Americans often live and work in challenging areas as they partner with their local counterparts to aid development. Peace Corps volunteers have made significant contributions assisting people to improve health care services, create business opportunities, promote education, and develop resources.

Many people in the world today are suffering from political unrest, natural disasters, disease, and a lack of economic opportunities. I commend all the Peace Corps volunteers who leave behind the comforts of home to live in different areas of the world and work to make the world a better place.

The Peace Corps volunteers' reputation as ambassadors of good-will demonstrates the ability of individuals to make a difference in our world. As they work alongside people from different nations, these volunteers have the opportunity to represent America and the values that we hold dear. Additionally, our volunteers' knowledge of the unique challenges people face gives us insight into developing better relations with other countries. I applaud their efforts and dedication.

I would like to recognize the men and women from Wyoming who are currently serving as U.S. Peace Corps volunteers: Lisa J. Balland, serving in Uganda; Thomas P. Burian, serving in Capre Verde; Bria M. Chimenti, serving

in Tonga; Jenna M. Dillion, serving in Senegal; Heather Dixon, serving in Gambia; Seth H. Edmunds, serving in Fiji; Sagar L. Gondalia, serving in Kazakhstan; Larry R. Hanson, serving in Fiji; Daniel J. Healy, serving in Ukraine; Sarah D. Hunt, serving in Romania; Kevin U. Malatesta, serving in Armenia; Joshua C. Marshall, serving in Morocco; Kathryn D. Mcmillan, serving in Costa Rica; Korie C. Merrill, serving in Togo; Jennifer D. Moore, serving in Namibia; Maggie K. Moran, serving in Romania; Michael O. Nielsen, serving in Malawi; Kelly M. Olenyik, serving in Malawi; Brandon J. Perkins, serving in Burkina Faso; Michael S. Quinn, serving in Kazakhstan; Garrett C. Schiche, serving in Thailand; and Brian M. Steen, serving in Kyrgyzstan.

#### CONGRATULATING HAMILTON COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Mr. JOHANNES. Mr. President, I wish to offer my congratulations to Hamilton County, NE, as Progressive Farmer named them the top county in our country to raise a family. As I am sure the senior Senator from Nebraska would agree, this is a community worthy of the honor. With the great beauty, work ethic, and commitment to family and neighbors, truly Hamilton County and all of Nebraska offers visitors and residents a uniquely fulfilling quality of life.

I know the senior Senator from Nebraska has also been to Hamilton County numerous times. Would the senior Senator like to offer his thoughts on the honor this Nebraska county has received?

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I thank the junior Senator from Nebraska. I, too, offer my praises to Hamilton County, NE, and to express how truly fitting this honor from the Progressive Farmer is. Hamilton County has always been a place imbued with the strong values of our great State of Nebraska values of the family, a strong work ethic, and the beauty that the State is known for. Aptly named for our Nation's first Treasury Secretary—Alexander Hamilton—this county holds many of Nebraska's treasures. From Phillips to Hampton, Aurora to Marquette, Giltner to Hordville, and even little Stockham, this county embodies what Nebraska is all about.

#### PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, Senate Standing Rules XXVI requires each committee to adopt rules to govern the procedure of the committee and to publish those rules in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD not later than March 1 of the first year of each Congress. On February 24, 2009, a majority of the members of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' Permanent Subcommittee on In-

vestigations adopted subcommittee rules of procedure.

Consistent with Standing Rule XXVI, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a copy of the rules of procedure of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, AS ADOPTED

FEBRUARY 24, 2009

1. No public hearing connected with an investigation may be held without the approval of either the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member or the approval of a Majority of the Members of the Subcommittee. In all cases, notification to all Members of the intent to hold hearings must be given at least 7 days in advance to the date of the hearing. The Ranking Minority Member should be kept fully apprised of preliminary inquiries, investigations, and hearings. Preliminary inquiries may be initiated by the Subcommittee Majority staff upon the approval of the Chairman and notice of such approval to the Ranking Minority Member or the Minority counsel. Preliminary inquiries may be undertaken by the Minority staff upon the approval of the Ranking Minority Member and notice of such approval to the Chairman or Chief Counsel. Investigations may be undertaken upon the approval of the Chairman of the Subcommittee and the Ranking Minority Member with notice of such approval to all Members.

No public hearing shall be held if the Minority Members unanimously object, unless the full Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs by a majority vote approves of such public hearing.

Senate Rules will govern all closed sessions convened by the Subcommittee (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(b), Standing Rules of the Senate).

2. Subpoenas for witnesses, as well as documents and records, may be authorized and issued by the Chairman, or any other Member of the Subcommittee designated by him or her, with notice to the Ranking Minority Member. A written notice of intent to issue a subpoena shall be provided to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, or staff officers designated by them, by the Subcommittee Chairman or a staff officer designated by him or her, immediately upon such authorization, and no subpoena shall be issued for at least 48 hours, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, from delivery to the appropriate offices, unless the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member waive the 48 hour waiting period or unless the Subcommittee Chairman certifies in writing to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member that, in his or her opinion, it is necessary to issue a subpoena immediately.

3. The Chairman shall have the authority to call meetings of the Subcommittee. This authority may be delegated by the Chairman to any other Member of the Subcommittee when necessary.

4. If at least three Members of the Subcommittee desire the Chairman to call a special meeting, they may file in the office of the Subcommittee, a written request therefor, addressed to the Chairman. Immediately thereafter, the clerk of the Subcommittee shall notify the Chairman of such request. If, within 3 calendar days after the filing of such request, the Chairman fails to call the requested special meeting, which is to be held within 7 calendar days after the filing of such request, a majority of the Subcommittee Members may file in the office of the Subcommittee their written notice that